



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®



Sandusky Harbor, OH

Harbor Features

- Located on Lake Erie in the city of Sandusky, Erie County, OH.
- Authorization: Rivers & Harbors Acts of 1899, 1902, 1919, 1927, 1935, 1945, and 1960.
- Deep draft commercial harbor.
- Project depths: 26 feet in the Mosely Channel, 25 feet in the Bay Channel, 22 feet in the Dock Channel, and 21 feet in the Straight Channel.
- 3.0M tons of material shipped and received in 2021.
- Interconnected with 11 commercial ports: ships to 8 ports and receives from 3 ports.
- Over two miles of breakwater structures.
- The Moseley, Bay, Dock, and Straight federal channels total 5.95 miles in length.
- Major stakeholders: U.S. Coast Guard, Norfolk Southern, Sandusky Dock Corp., George Gradel Co., Cedar Point Amusement Park, commercial ferries, and private marinas.

Project Requirements

- The harbor requires approximately 140,000 cubic yards of dredging every year to maintain the navigation channel. The harbor was last dredged in 2023 resulting in removal of approximately 140,000 cubic yards of material. Dredging planned for 2024 and beyond has been postponed due to insufficient dredged material placement capacity. Dredging will resume when a new placement site is identified.
- Evaluation of dredged material placement alternatives and development of a dredged material management plan for the harbor are ongoing to ensure placement capacity for future maintenance dredging.



Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project (Updated 10/30)

- Light loading: losses of between 1 and 2 feet of channel depth would result in increased transportation costs of between \$631,100 and \$1,366,000 annually.
- Closing the harbor to commercial traffic would require commodities to be transported by rail and truck. This would increase annual emission rates by over 12,087 tons of harmful particulate matter (PM-10) and increase costs by \$6,229,000 due to increased railroad-related accidents and \$4,424,000 due to increased trucking-related accidents.

Transportation Importance

- Major receiving and shipping port on the Great Lakes and a harbor of refuge.
- Major commodities shipped include coal, salt, slag, oats, and wheat.
- Waterborne transportation facilitated by the harbor supports \$125.3M in business revenue, 539 direct, indirect, and induced jobs, and \$38.7M in labor income to the transportation sector.

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, 2024, and 2025
Sandusky Harbor, OH — Project Requirements and President’s Budget (\$1,000)**

Work Package	FY23 Requirement	FY23 Appropriation	FY24 Requirement	FY24 Appropriation	FY25 Requirement	FY25 Appropriation
Maintenance Dredging – Primary Work Package	1,001	1,001	1,120	1,120	1,378	1,378
Real Estate Management	6	6	6	6	6	6
Economic and Environmental Evaluation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dredged Material Management Plan	0	0	200	200	200	200
TOTAL	\$1,007	\$1,007	\$1,326	\$1,326	\$1,584	\$1,584

Congressional Interests

- Representative Marcy Kaptur D-OH-9
- Senator J. D. Vance R-OH
- Senator Sherrod Brown D-OH